Senator Lindsey Graham: Did You Forget 'Blessed are the Peacemakers, For They Will Be Called Children of God'?

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January 28, 2024

FROM THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR
LINDSEY GRAHAM

Graham Statement on Death of Three U.S. Service Members in Jordan

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina) today made this statement on three U.S. service members being killed and 25 being injured as a result of a drone attack in Jordan.

"When the Biden Administration says 'don't', the Iranians 'do'. The Biden Administration's rhetoric is falling on deaf ears in Iran. Their policy of deterrence against Iran has failed miserably. There have been over 100 attacks against U.S. forces in the region. Iran is undeterred.

"I am sending my condolences to the families of our fallen heroes in Jordan. I am also wishing a full recovery to those injured. Our forces in Jordan and Syria are there to protect the American homeland and to provide stability in a troubled region. Their service and sacrifice will always be appreciated. They are true heroes.

"The Biden Administration can take out all the Iranian proxies they like, but it will not deter Iranian aggression. I am calling on the Biden Administration to strike targets of significance inside Iran, not only as reprisal for the killing of our forces, but as deterrence against future aggression.

"The only thing the Iranian regime understands is force. Until they pay a price with their infrastructure and their personnel, the attacks on U.S. troops will continue.

"Secretary Austin's efforts to deter aggression against our forces in the region has failed miserably. I've long since lost confidence in the Biden national security team to deter Iran. If they do not change their policies now, more American service members in the region will pay the price.

"Hit Iran now. Hit them hard."

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God” is a saying from Matthew 5:9 of the Bible. This is part of the Beatitudes, also known as the Sermon on the Mount.

Senator Lindsey Graham has a notable involvement with the defense industry, which can be observed through his legislative actions, campaign financing, and connections.

1. **Legislative Involvement**: As a member of the Senate, Graham has been actively involved in securing funding for defense. He played a key role in securing an additional $8 billion in emergency funding for U.S. defense needs as part of the Fiscal Year 2024 Defense Appropriations Act. This funding aimed to address various aspects, including readiness gaps, inflation-related setbacks in defense programs, and support for U.S. allies such as Taiwan. Graham has consistently emphasized the importance of robust defense spending in response to global security threats, highlighting his commitment to funding America's defense and national security interests.
2. **Campaign Contributions**: Graham's campaign financing reveals connections with the defense industry. Notably, individuals affiliated with defense contractors such as Boeing, Honeywell, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, and Raytheon have contributed to his political activities. These donations were made to leadership PACs and super PACs associated with Graham, such as the Fund for America’s Future and Security is Strength. Additionally, his support for robust defense spending aligns with the interests of these contributors.
3. **Broader Connections**: The defense industry's contributions to members of Congress, including those on key committees like the Defense Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, suggest a broader pattern of defense contractors investing in legislative influencers. While specific

details about Graham's personal investments in the defense industry aren't provided, the general trend in Congress shows that several members have financial interests in defense contractors. This practice raises concerns about potential conflicts of interest, given that these companies depend significantly on defense spending approved by Congress.

Overall, Senator Graham's connections with the defense industry are multifaceted, involving his legislative role in securing defense funding, campaign contributions from individuals linked to defense contractors, and the broader context of congressional investments in the defense sector.